the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh, who visited India during the last two years were 905,980 in 1983-84 and 801,336 in 1984-85.

(b) The number of foreign tourists expected to visit India during 1985-86 is about 8.6 lakhs.

(c) The steps initiated to increase the inflow of foreign tourists to India include re-orientation of publicity campaigns giving emphasis on consumer advertising, stepping up of public relations with the media overseas, the tour operators and the travel agents abroad, participation in international travel fairs and exhibitions, development of infrastructucal facilities and improvement of transport systems.

Storing of confiscated goods by Customs Department in Bombay

2345. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1326 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 6th August, 1985 regarding proposals for warehousing accommodation for storing of confiscated goods by Customs Department in Bombay and state:

(a) whether a final decision in the matter has been taken; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, and if not, by when a decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A decision has been taken to hire warehousing accommodation offered by M/s Phonenix Mills Ltd. for storage of confiscated goods of the Customs Department at Bombay.

Boom in diamond industry

2346. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a new boom in diamond industry, if so, whether Government have plans to ensure that the artisans and the Industry are provided sufficient incentives to maintain and improve this situation over the coming years through better tools, training and technology;

(b) what are the details thereof as reported in the 'Economic Times' of 18th February, 1986; and

(c) whether search for diamonds in any areas have been made so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b) There is no particular boom in the diamond industry. Import of machinery, equipment, tools and implements under OGL with a concessional rate of duty of 25 per cent, apart from training of artisans in different aspects of diamond cutting and polishing, has been facilitated for product diversification and improvement in productivity not only to sustain but also to improve export production of cut and polished diamonds.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Import of sugar from U.K.

2347. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI DHARAM CHANDER PRASHANT:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite improved production during 1985-86, Government propose to import large quantities of sugar from U.K.: and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Import of sugar has been restricted to the